ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner Jeff Regnart, Director



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CHIGNIK COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHERY UPDATE # 02

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is soliciting vessel charters to conduct the 2011 Chignik Lagoon test fishery. Vessel operators must have a minimum of three years' commercial fishing experience within Chignik Lagoon and contain a refrigerated seawater (RSW) system to chill the catch. Legal Chignik Lagoon seine gear is required, as is vessel compliance with U.S. Coast Guard safety regulations and insurance requirements. The department will pay \$1,800.00 per day for the 2011 test fishery. The first test fishery may take place as early as June 5.

Vessel operators are encouraged to contact the Chignik weir by phone (845-2243) or by email (todd.anderson2@alaska.gov) to be placed on the list. At 5:00 p.m. June 5, the department will conduct a random drawing to determine the sequence of participating vessel operators. This sequential list will be maintained throughout the season. Additional vessel operators may enroll after the initial enrollment and drawing; however, these operators will be placed at the end of the established list in the order in which they are received. If a vessel operator is unable to participate in their assigned order, the department will contact the next vessel operator on the established list. The vessel operator that was unable to participate will be reassigned to the bottom of the established list.

Statistical charts, harvest strategies, and subsistence fishing permits are available at the Chignik weir and the Kodiak regional ADF&G offices. Commercial fishing regulations, commercial harvest, escapement, and news releases can be found on the ADF&G website at http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareachignik.salmon. Fishermen are encouraged to standby on VHF Channel 6 at 9:15 a.m. and 6:15 p.m. daily for fishery updates.